

# Deacons

## *Philippians 1:1-8*

**Introduction:** We did study on Elders a few weeks ago. We want to study about Deacons today.

### **I. What Is A Deacon?**

- A. We can learn a lot through definitions.
  - 1. DIAKONOS.
    - a. “One who executes the commands of another, a servant, an attendant, minister” (Thayer).
    - b. “..primarily denotes a servant, whether as doing servile work, or as an attendant rendering free service, without particular reference to its character” (Vine).
  - 2. Indicates at first, one who serves in a general way. Secondary meaning carries the idea of a particular servant for a particular work.
- B. Seven particular men were selected for particular work (*Acts 6:1-7*).
- C. Qualifications prove a particular position (*1 Tim. 3:8-12*).
- D. Servants—not rulers.
  - 1. Deacons serve (*Acts 6:2-3; 1 Tim. 3:10*).
  - 2. Elders rule (*Heb. 13:17; 1 Peter 5:2-3*).

### **II. Deacons Are Not...**

- A. Elders.
- B. Junior elders or elders in training.
- C. Filling some “lesser” position.
- D. Menials.

### **III. Work Of Deacons.**

- A. To minister to the needs of the local church.
  - 1. Primarily to free up apostles (when extant), elders, preacher.
  - 2. Getting things done that need to be done.
  - 3. Suggestions:
    - a. Benevolent needs.
    - b. Building(s) and grounds.
    - c. Classrooms and teachers and supplies.
    - d. Treasurer.
- B. Always dominated by one word—SERVE.

**Conclusion:** Sometimes churches and elders and deacons and much gets accomplished. Sometimes there are no deacons, but the work is still there. Who does it? Who will do it? Does anyone? Will anyone?